

Tempe★Union

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

500 West Guadalupe Road • Tempe, Arizona • 85283-3599 • (480) 839-0292 • www.tempeunion.org

Dr. Kevin J. Mendivil
Superintendent

Friday, September 13, 2019

Arizona Interscholastic Association
Attention: Mr. David Hines, Executive Director
7007 North 18th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85020-5552

Dear Mr. Hines,

The Tempe Union High School District was recently made aware of a situation involving one of our teachers, who is also the Varsity Girls Basketball Coach and a Varsity Football Assistant Coach at Mountain Pointe High School.

A personnel investigation has revealed that this employee was sharing protected information about the varsity football team and varsity boys basketball team with opposing coaches. This information was shared to give Mountain Pointe's opponents a competitive edge.

While we do not understand the motive behind these actions, our district does not condone cheating and is devastated to find that a trusted adult on our campus was actively working to undermine the success of our students.

We have evidence that dates back to 2017 that this person shared protected information about formations, game plans, signals and player eligibility with opposing coaches. We are troubled that, until a recent game versus Faith Lutheran High School, neither Mountain Pointe coaches nor school administration were informed that this protected information was being shared with opposing teams.

Attached to this letter are emails between an anonymous email account (walterpayton12@yahoo.com) and numerous high school coaches. The information was sent to the yahoo account from a TUHSD email account.

Testimony by other TUHSD employees reveals that the yahoo email account contained hundreds of emails, and included extensive communication between the anonymous email account and opposing coaches. Unfortunately, TUHSD was only able to obtain a small amount of these emails before the yahoo account was closed.

The actions of the TUHSD employee and opposing coaches are in direct opposition to the AIA's philosophy of "Victory with Honor." According to those with direct knowledge of the emails, we understand that many of the coaches who received this information communicated with the anonymous email, we believe, to gain a competitive edge against Mountain Pointe.

Governing Board

Andres Barraza

Brian Garcia

Michelle Helm

Berdetta Hodge

Sandy Lowe

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The entire Tempe Union family is devastated to learn of these acts and the employee connected to the release of this information and will no longer be employed with the district, upon Governing Board approval on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019.

In the Tempe Union High School District, we have a set of core values and beliefs that guide everything we do. First and foremost, we put “students first” in all we do and expect all employees to behave with “integrity” in all they do and say. We value truthfulness and trustworthiness and we take responsibility for our actions.

The employee connected with these acts has violated TUHSD Governing Board Policies regarding staff ethics and staff conduct. These actions are in direct conflict to TUHSD core values and beliefs, as well as the ideals of TUHSD high school athletic programs, which are founded on the highest ideals of sportsmanship.

We ask the AIA to look into these matters to ensure the integrity of high school athletics in Arizona has not been compromised and that there are no bylaw violations. (Reference AIA Article 17, Bylaw 17.4; 17.4.2.3; 17.4.3.1; 17.2.3.2)

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information or have questions.

Sincerely,

Bruce Kipper
Athletic Director,
Tempe Union High School District

Summary of emails in TUHSD possession and game outcomes:

Nov. 14-16, 2017: Emails exchanged between Coach Preston Jones and WalterPayton12 about game plays. WalterPayton12 provided PDF images of plays

2017 6A Football State Championship Semifinals: MTP loses to Perry 31-56 on Nov. 18, 2017

Feb. 19, 2018: WalterPayton12 emails Brophy Head Basketball Coach John Burns and shared plays that MTP basketball planned to use.

2018 6A Basketball State Championship Semifinals: MTP beats Brophy 58-62 in Semifinal of Feb. 21, 2018

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Feb 27, 2018: WalterPayton12 emails Pinnacle Head Varsity Basketball Coach Charlie Wilde with information about strategy for state champ game. Refers to himself as “friends with Asst. Coach Fauske.”

2018 6A Basketball State Championship Game: MTP loses to Pinnacle 76-60 in state champ game on Feb. 28, 2018

Aug 22, 2018: WalterPayton12 emails Pinnacle Head Football Coach Dana Zupke with game information.

MTP loses to Pinnacle 34-56 on Aug 24, 2018

Sept. 5, 2018: WalterPayton12 emails Bingham head football coach and shared images with plays.

MTP loses to Bingham High School (Utah) 21-14 on Sept. 8

Sept 25, 2018: WalterPayton12 emails Highland High School Head Football Coach Brock Farrell images of the “Highland Defense.”

MTP beats Highland HS 48-27 on Sept 28, 2018

Oct. 16-17, 2018: WalterPayton12 emails Head Varsity Football Coach Jeremy Hathcock images of plays and discloses ineligible player information.

MTP beats Desert Ridge 28-20 on Oct. 19, 2018

Nov. 5, 2018: WalterPayton12 emails Chandler HS Head Football Coach Shaun Aguano and Asst. Coach Steve Vaught and shared play images.

2018 Varsity Football State Championship Quarterfinals:

MTP loses to Chandler HS 49-21 on Nov. 9, 2018

Aug. 21, 2019: WalterPayton12 emails Faith Lutheran High School Head Varsity Coach Vernon Fox plays for games. Coach Fox responds and says “we don’t believe in cheating.”

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MTP beats Faith Lutheran High School in Las Vegas 40-17 on Aug. 23, 2019

Aug 15/23, 2019: WalterPayton12 emails Pinnacle Head Coach Dana Zupke images of plays for game.

MTP loses to Pinnacle 0-40 on Aug. 30, 2019

Mp 4-3 defense and disguise

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: jones.preston@cusd80.com

Date: Thursday, November 16, 2017, 09:46 AM MST

Here ya go what they will run vs. your offense . Was what they did yesterday as you can see when it was printed . Good luck take it to them

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android



MP Defense 4-3.pdf
286.2kB



Disguising the blitz.pdf
331.5kB

RE: MP O game plan. Defense vs Chandler

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: jones.preston@cusd80.com

Date: Friday, November 17, 2017, 08:27 PM MST

They will try zone read against you guys. They will kick away from 6 .

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Tue, Nov 14, 2017 at 10:38 AM, Jones, Preston
<jones.preston@cusd80.com> wrote:

Why do you think they will do what they did against Chandler?

From: Walter Payton [mailto:walterpayton12@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Jones, Preston <jones.preston@cusd80.com>
Subject: MP O game plan. Defense vs Chandler

Good morning Coach Jones ,

Here is MP game plan vs you on the offensive side . The defensive plan vs what they did vs Chandler. They will run a 40 front in you . I am good friends with the DC. No one can stand Norris and all are rooting for you . I have coaches against him for years . I will send you defensive plan once I get more. They will run a 40 for sure . There linebackers do not play assignment football and tend to do what they want. No discipline with there players . Make there line backers make decisions . Also number 30 Kahliff will do what he wants as well . He likes to spin . 54 Hayes is good but is not in shape . Palo is not in shape as well run at him bring people at him.

They will run quarterback draw alot . Get them in 3rd and long and they will throw a post to Pleasant #31. Stop the run . They will play alot of man defense against you guys for sure . Exploit them please. We are all rooting for you!

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This electronic transmission and any attachment are the confidential property of Chandler Unified School District #80. The information in this e-mail links or attachments thereto is intended for the attention and use of the addressee only. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copy of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender in reply and delete or discard this message immediately.

Mp

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: jburns@brophyprep.org

Date: Monday, February 19, 2018, 08:16 AM MST

Hey Coach ,

Go get MP. They will try to shut down your two best players . They will run a run and jump 221 on you and back to M2M. Force cash Right. Graham and Dre don't like to be physical . They will try to increase tempo on you . Guard Payne he can shoot it . Let me know what you need .

Tap to get Yahoo Mail

MP

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: cwilde@pvschools.net

Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 11:06 AM MST

Good morning Coach,

I can disclose who I am but I will say I know alot about the program as I am friends with the asst coach Fauske. For one they will deny your best player the ball. Red headed kid. They will run 55 which is full court man. If they run 55 stay they won't trap. If they say choke they Will double Manon and make someone else handle it . They want to tire him out.

They will run some 23 zone when ahead . They will run Carolina 4 corners when ahead. Dribble drive they run . They will foul you. Also they have bought there rings already.. go get them

Tap to get Yahoo Mail

Mp

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: dzupke@pvschools.net

Date: Wednesday, August 22, 2018, 12:04 PM MST

They will be running a cover 4 against you. If you go in shot gun they will bring 5. They will show man then go zone underneath on any crossing routes . They will try to put pressure on your qb or try to. They are not disciplined. They won't r in any cover 2. Any seam routes They will be in cover 4.

Offense they will run speed and run out of spread. Neither quarterback can throw. McKInney is best back but has missed practice this week . Make them try to throw. Quarterback will run.

They don't respect you guys.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

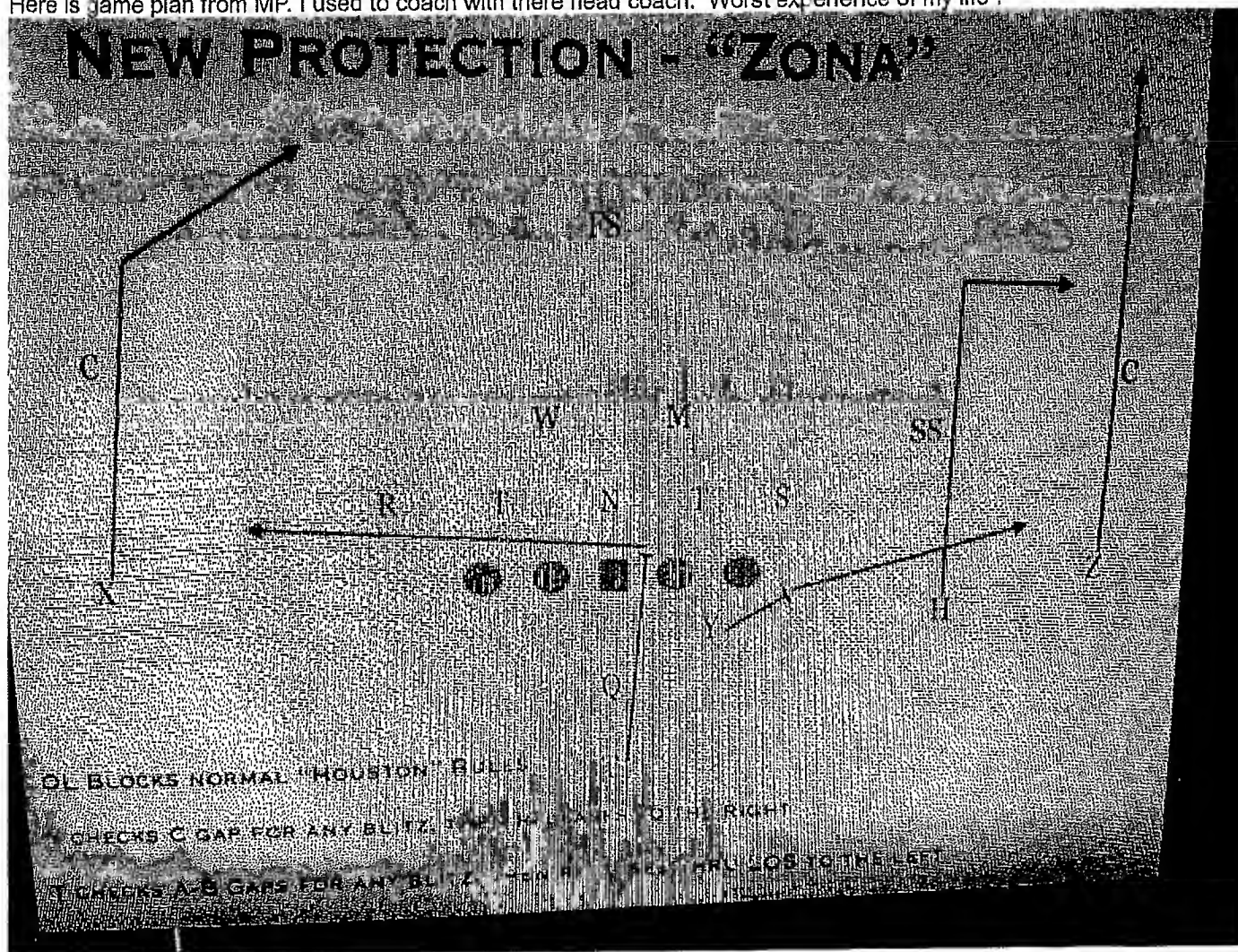
Mp

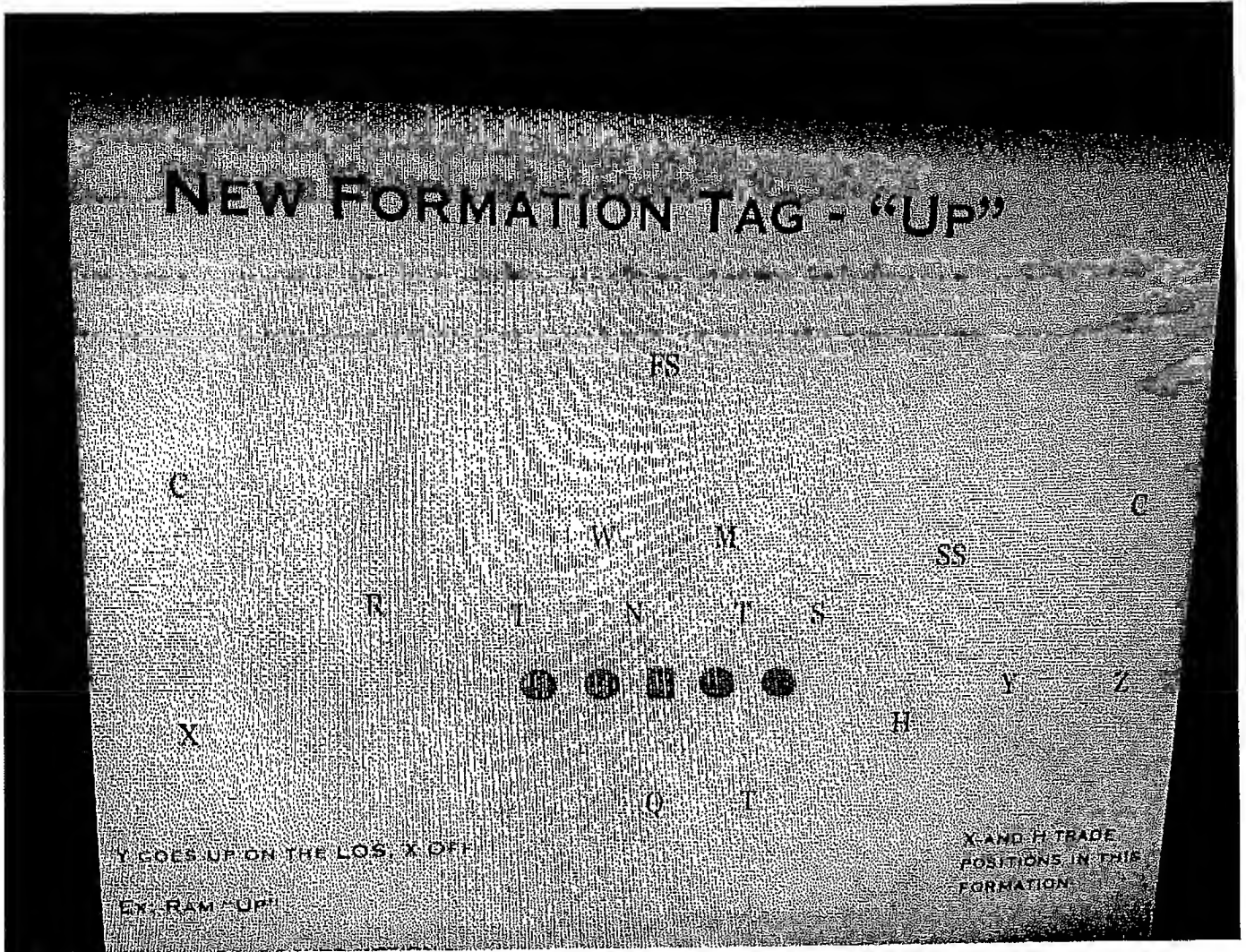
From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

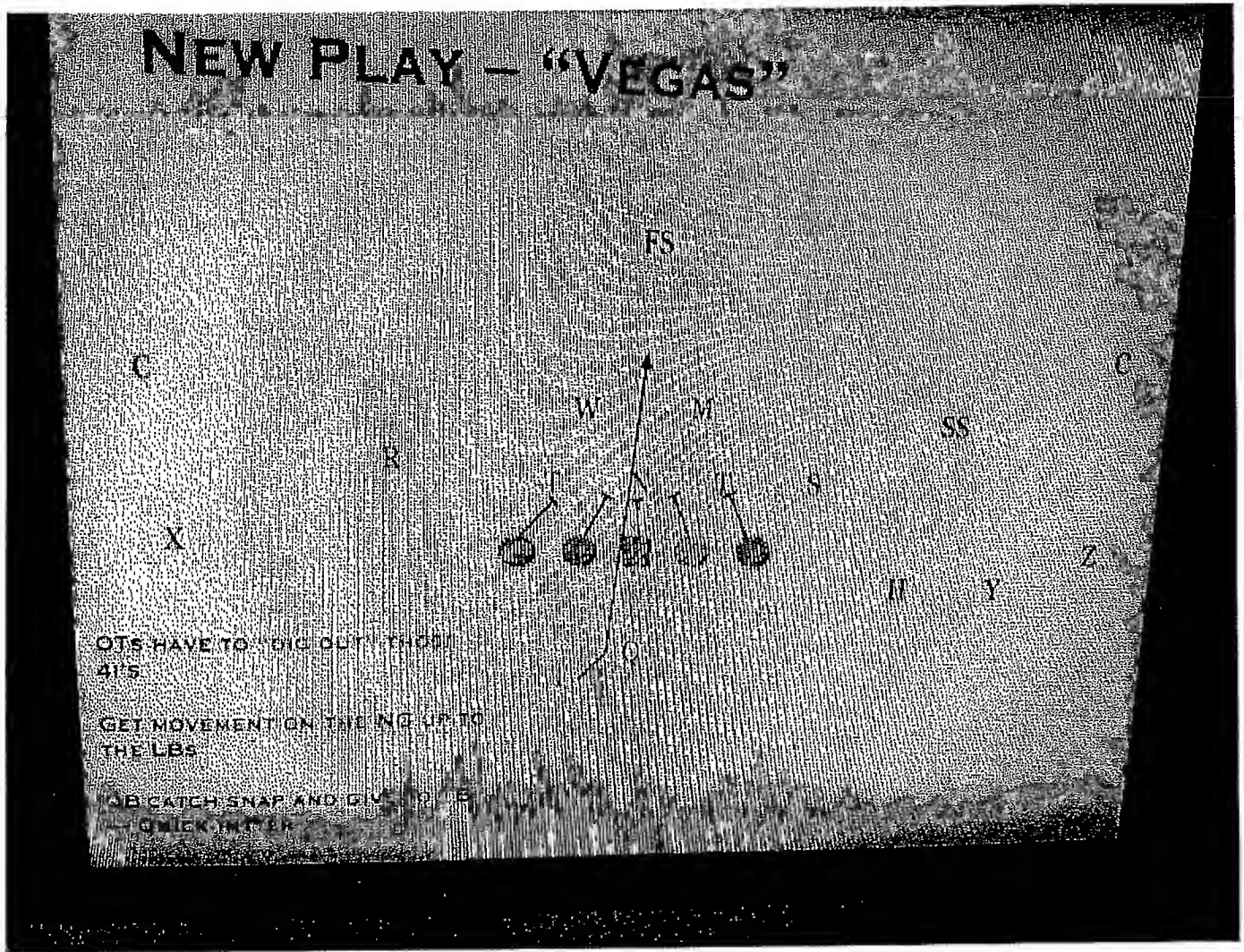
To: john.lambourne@jordandistrict.org

Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2018, 11:24 AM MST

Here is game plan from MP. I used to coach with there head coach. Worst experience of my life .







Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Mp

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: brock.farrel@gilbertschools.net

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2018, 11:16 AM MST

HIGHLAND DEFENSE

CB
#2 DAYTON HUFFMAN
SR, 6-0 188

FS
#1 KONNER CULLMORE
SR, 6-1 200

SS
#24 CARR DAMAR
SR, 6-1 190

FS
#22 JAMAL
JR, 6-0 190

ROVER
#20 RYAN MARTINEZ
SR, 6-2 195

ILB
#22 CORD CRIDMON
SR, 6-0 200

ILB
#17 GRIFFIN NIELSON
SR, 6-2 220

OLB
#8 DANIEL WOOD
JR, 6-10 205

DE
#9 COOPER HOLMAN
SR, 6-4 225

LB
#77 MONAJ WEST
JR, 6-11 220

DE
#80 COOPER BROWN
SO, 6-1 215

BASE:	3-4	COVERAGES:	COVER 4 COVER 1	STRENGTHS	AGGRESSIVENESS TACKLING
FRONTS:	3-4 4-2				
DEF LINE:	N O/H DE: 5/4/1	CB TECHNIQUES	BACK PEDAL		OVER PURSUING ATHLETICISM
FAV BLITZES:	SAM (33% 1ST) ROVER (26% 3RD)	FS/SS TECHNIQUES	BACK PEDAL	WEAKNESSES	DL SIZE/STRENGTH COVERAGE ANGLE

KEY DEFENSIVE PLAYERS

- ILB #47 GRIFFIN NIELSON - LEADING TACKLER/LEADING SACKS
- FS #1 KOHNER CULLMORE - 2ND IN TACKLES
- SS #24 CADE CAMAC - 3RD IN TACKLES
- DL #9 COOPER HOLMAN

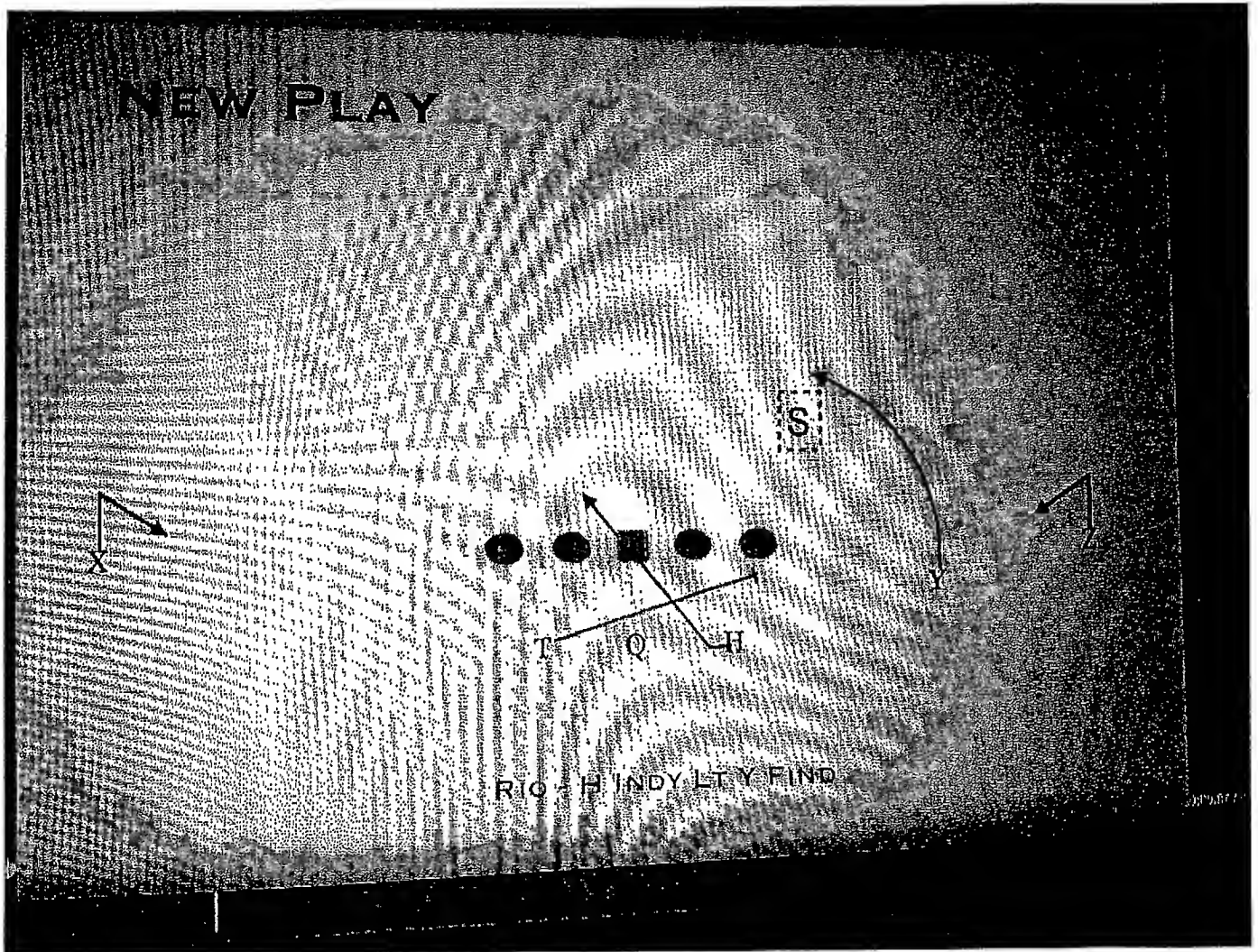
Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

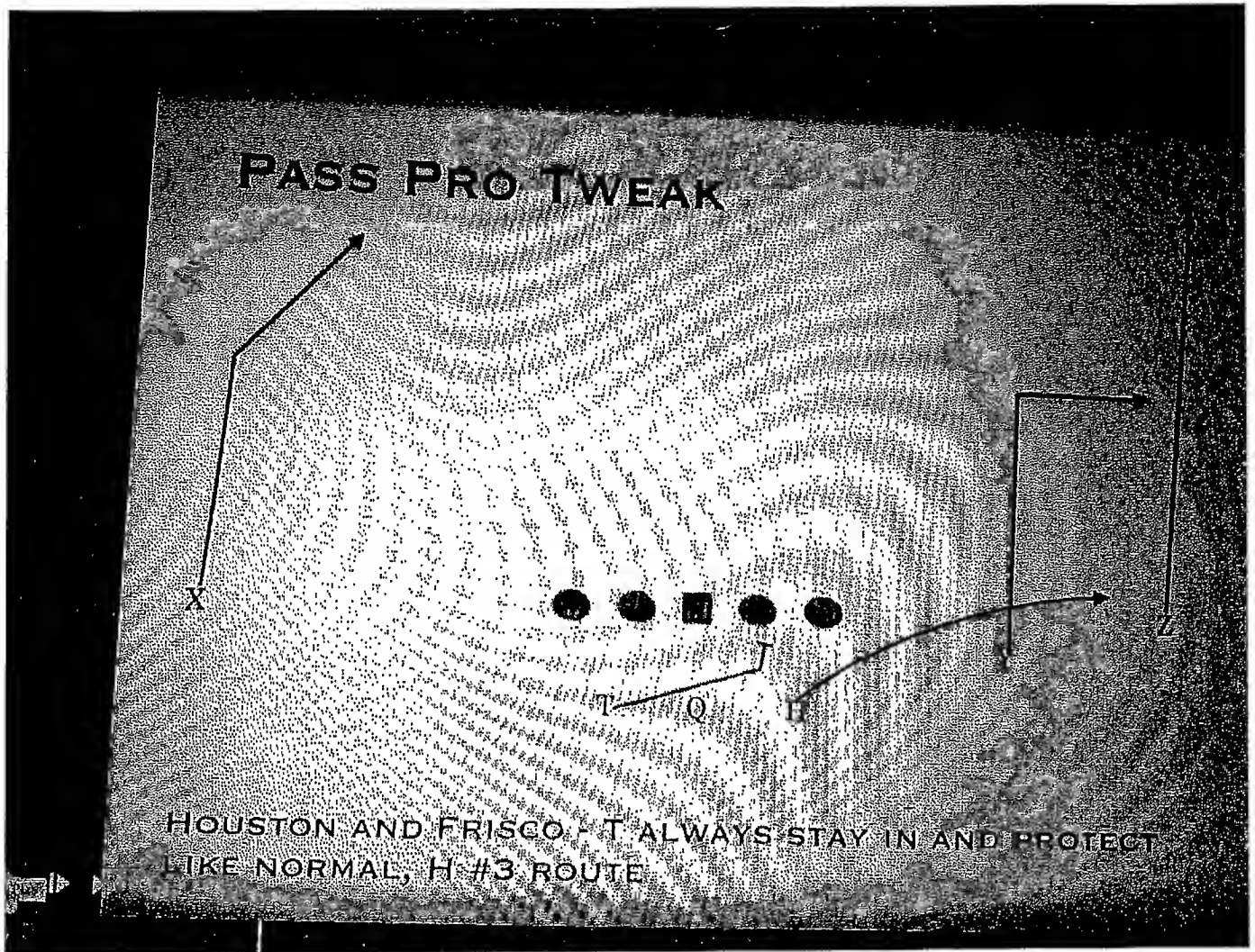
More

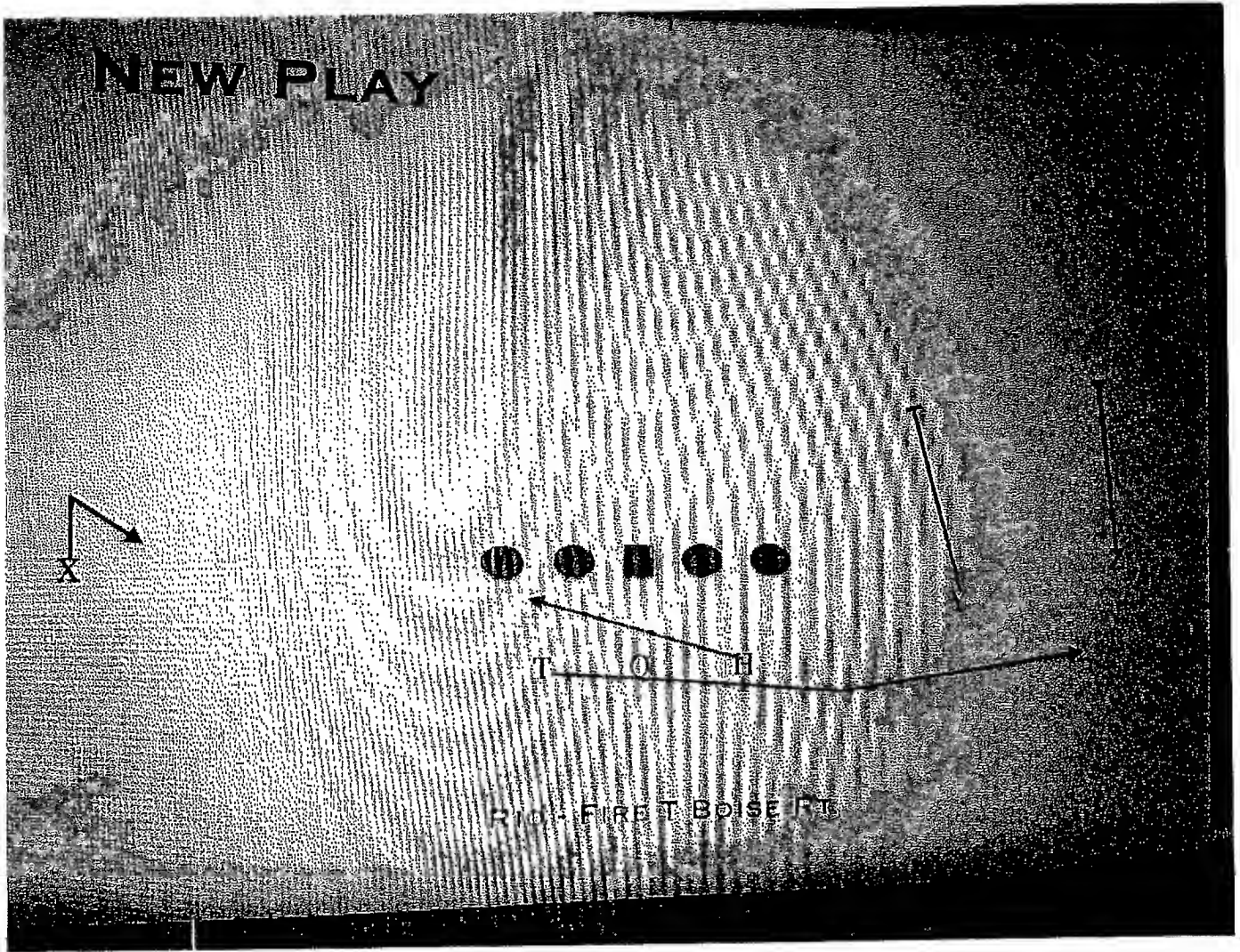
From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: jeremy.hathcock@gilbertschools.net

Date: Tuesday, October 16, 2018, 11:51 AM MST







Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Players

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: jeremy.hathcock@gilbertschools.net

Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2018, 10:48 AM MST

Fyi . Isaiah Anderson, Jatu Gipson Jayless Horton, Ahmed Williams are ineligible and not playing.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Mp

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: aguano.shayn@cusd80.com

Cc: vaught.steve@cusd80.com

Date: Monday, November 5, 2018, 07:46 PM MST

Good Evening Coach. I was an assistant with Coach Vaughn for many years. They have not taking me off the Hudl yet here is what they have for you guys. Coach wellbrock feels that if his online contain your d-line they won't have an issue. He told the kids today that you guys are overrated and not as good as what you used to be. He feels comfortable with the game and that Chandler has not played anyline but the call school . Please give them a beat down.. I will send you everything now..

CHANDLER DEFENSE					
STARTERS VS BOULDER CREEK					
CB #85 RAMONE ROBINSON JR. 6-0 170		FS #11 TIM BOYD SR. 5-8 180		CB #86 DAVID EPPINGER SR. 5-11 180	
W #32 TATE ROMNEY JR. 6-2 215		M #44 ZACH BOWERS SR. 6-0 220		S #43 JAVAN AH QDIN SR. 5-9 185	
SS #47 KENTRELL WILLIAMS JR. SO. 5-9 170		DE #8 MAX SANDLIN SR. 6-3 220		DT #91 ADAM MORRIS SR. 6-2 270	
NT #85 MILES MCNAIR SR. 6-1 240		DE #54 BRANDON BUCKNER SO. 6-2 230			
BABE	4-3	COVERAGES	COVER 3	STRENGTHS	DL SIZE/STRENGTH
FRONTS:	4-3 3-4		COVER 0 COVER 4		
DEF LINE:	N/DT: 0/1/3 DE: 5/4/3	CB TECHNIQUES:	BACKPEDAL	WEAKNESSES:	SECONDARY DEPTH
PLAY BLITZES:	SAM & WILL C (35%)	FS/SS TECHNIQUES:	BACKPEDAL		

BASE DEFENSE - 4-4

FS

C S M W R C

E T N E

X H Y Z

Q

T



VS



7-4

10-1

2ND ROUND

GAMES SCOUTED:

VS CENTENNIAL (CA) (L 35-13), VS QUEEN CREEK (W 49-21), VS FAITH LUTHERAN (W 35-21), @ PERRY (W 45-34), VS TUCSON (W 62-0), @ HAMILTON (W 49-9), VS BOULDER CREEK (W 64-14)

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

More

From: Walter Payton (walterpayton12@yahoo.com)

To: foxv@flhsemail.org

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2019, 10:00 AM MST

Red is cover 3

Blue is cover 2

33 stack

Offense will do some bunch formation. Their QB will not keep it so the zone read does nothing. He is a lefty sophomore. Put pressure on him. He is slow and unathletic. Offensive line is not good .. besides the center. Auburn power offense formation will right. Vegas is a reverse

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Re: More

From: Vernon Fox (foxv@flhsemail.org)

To: walterpayton12@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2019, 10:19 AM MST

Sir...I don't believe in cheating. We are not looking to gain an unfair advantage. We will prepare as best we can and look to have a great competitive game.

Many blessings

Vernon Fox III
Head Football Coach
Falth Lutheran High School
Las Vegas, Nevada
P:702.804.4430
F: 702.562.7728
@VernonFox3

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed! -Prov. 16:3

On Wed, Aug 21, 2019 at 10:05 AM Walter Payton <walterpayton12@yahoo.com> wrote:

Some info on MP they will play a 3-3 stack here are some photos.. offensively zone ready. 5 is best receiver. 32 and 20 play both ways Hodge and Shank . Take those 3 away . Quarterback is young. Sophomore cant run . Send pressure he will freak . He will only throw to 5 and running backs on swing routes . 15 and 14 zone . He wont keep it . They have no line ..Beat there ass ..

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android



Walter Payton Aug 23

to dzupke@pvschools.net ✓



Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Thu, Aug 15, 2019 at 5:48 PM, Walter Payton
<walterpayton12@yahoo.com> wrote:

Mountain pointe will be at ur scrimmage

Sent from Yahoo

